

Whereas, in 1945, Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. was organized with the help of Eleanor Roosevelt to assist the families left behind by the fallen members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas the first meeting of Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. was held on April 5, 1945;

Whereas April 5, 2023, marks the 78th anniversary of the first meeting of Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.;

Whereas the members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States bear the burden of protecting the freedom of the people of the United States; and

Whereas the sacrifices of the families of the fallen members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States should never be forgotten: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 5, 2023, as “Gold Star Wives Day”;

(2) honors and recognizes—

(A) the contributions of the members of Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.; and

(B) the dedication of the members of Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. to the members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe Gold Star Wives Day to promote awareness of—

(A) the contributions and dedication of the members of Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. to the members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(B) the important role that Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. plays in the lives of the spouses and families of the fallen members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 122—COMMEMORATING THE 360TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD

Mr. BUDD (for himself and Mr. TILLIS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 122

Whereas the North Carolina National Guard traces its roots to the Carolina Charter and the establishment of the Province of Carolina on March 24, 1663;

Whereas during the Revolutionary War, much of the organized militia of North Carolina became part of the North Carolina Line, fighting as far north as New York and as far south as Florida, including the Battle of Fort Moultrie, the Battle of Germantown, Valley Forge, and the Battle of Monmouth;

Whereas the unorganized militia fought in all of the battles in North Carolina, from the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge to the Battle of Guilford Courthouse;

Whereas, during the War of 1812, the militia of North Carolina provided coastal defense and a regiment of infantry during the Mexican War;

Whereas, in 1918, the 30th Division, consisting of units from the North Carolina National Guard and soldiers from South Carolina and Tennessee, fighting alongside other units from the United States and Australia, broke Germany's Hindenburg Line, a decisive victory that helped bring World War I to an end;

Whereas the soldiers of the 30th Division received more Medals of Honor than any other division during World War I and more than half of the decorations given by the British to United States troops;

Whereas, in 1940, the 30th Division was one of the first 4 National Guard divisions called

into Federal service, a year before the United States entered World War II;

Whereas the 30th Division, now made up of 2 North Carolina Regiments (the 119th and 120th Infantry) and 1 Tennessee Regiment (the 117th Infantry), formed the nucleus of many new units that entered World War II ahead of their “mother division”;

Whereas, in 1948, the North Carolina Air National Guard was organized with an air defense mission;

Whereas the North Carolina Air National Guard was activated at the outbreak of the Korean War and a significant number of its personnel were assigned to Korea as individual replacements;

Whereas the North Carolina Army National Guard also saw several of its units activated for the Korean War, with engineer units deploying to Korea and members of anti-aircraft units deploying as individual replacements;

Whereas, in 1960, the mission of the North Carolina Air National Guard was changed from air defense to aeromedical transport;

Whereas, in 1966, the 145th Military Airlift Group of the North Carolina Air National Guard participated in aeromedical evacuation from war-torn Vietnam and was the first Air National Guard unit to fly into a conflict area in peacetime;

Whereas the North Carolina National Guard underwent multiple reorganizations after World War II, including the loss of the 30th Division, but the lineage of the 30th Division is perpetuated by the 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team;

Whereas, in the Gulf War, the North Carolina National Guard mobilized 4 battalions and 15 separate companies and detachments for service;

Whereas, since the tragedies of 9/11, North Carolina has deployed over 24,000 National Guard soldiers and airmen across the globe;

Whereas the National Guard is the oldest component of the United States military establishment and has a long and proud history stretching back 360 years;

Whereas, in war or peace, the North Carolina National Guard has been there, and will continue to be there, whenever or wherever needed by their country, their State, or their neighbor, as an “Always Ready – Ready Team”;

Whereas the North Carolina National Guard is currently composed of the 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team, 449th Combat Aviation Brigade, 130th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, 113th Sustainment Brigade, 60th Troop Command, 139th Regiment, and 145th Airlift Wing;

Whereas, throughout its history, the North Carolina National Guard has protected and assisted their fellow North Carolinians during hurricanes, floods, winter storms, wildfires, and threats of violence;

Whereas North Carolina guardsmen have also assisted their fellow citizens following major disasters in other States, such as South Carolina, Louisiana, and South Dakota, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; and

Whereas March 24, 2023, marks the 360th anniversary of the North Carolina National Guard: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates March 24, 2023, as the 360th anniversary of the North Carolina National Guard; and

(2) commemorates and honors the continued service of the members of the North Carolina National Guard.

SENATE RESOLUTION 123—RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF MARCH 19 THROUGH MARCH 25, 2023, AS “NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK” AND ENCOURAGING COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE DANGERS OF POISONING AND PROMOTE POISON PREVENTION

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 123

Whereas the designation of National Poison Prevention Week was first authorized by Congress and President Kennedy in 1961, in Public Law 87-319 (75 Stat. 681);

Whereas National Poison Prevention Week occurs during the third full week of March each year;

Whereas, in 2021 to 2022, poison centers managed more than 5,000,000 human exposure cases and information requests, including—

(1) opioid and fentanyl misuse;

(2) suicide attempts, including those among adolescents and teenagers; and

(3) accidental edible cannabis ingestion;

Whereas poison centers are on the front lines assisting throughout the United States with emergency disasters in our communities, including the East Palestine, Ohio, train derailment where Ohio poison centers are working around the clock with Federal, State, and local officials, as well as other poison centers including, the Pittsburgh Poison Center, to ensure that impacted communities have the resources they need to have their questions answered, and to provide guidance to local healthcare providers on how to assist people experiencing symptoms;

Whereas poison control centers responded during the COVID-19 pandemic to COVID-19 related surges by conducting poison safety and poisoning prevention outreach in a virtual format, and handled increases in cases relating to hand sanitizer and household cleaning products;

Whereas America's Poison Centers works with the 55 poison control centers in the United States to track—

(1) more than 1,000 commonly used household and workplace products that can cause poisoning; and

(2) poisonings and the sources of those poisonings;

Whereas the National Poison Data System database contains over 447,000 products, ranging from viral and bacterial agents to commercial chemical and drug products;

Whereas local poison control centers save the people of the United States \$1,800,000,000 in medical costs annually;

Whereas America's Poison Centers and poison control centers partner with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, and State, local, Tribal, and territorial health departments to monitor occurrences of environmental, biological, and emerging threats in communities across the United States, including food poisoning, botulism, and vaping-associated lung injury;

Whereas, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, in 2020, an estimated 61,500 children younger than 5 years of age were treated in emergency rooms due to unintended poisonings;

Whereas, in 2021, children younger than 6 years of age constituted 41 percent of all poison exposures;

Whereas, from 2012 to 2022, the number of adolescents 10 to 19 years of age seen for a suicide attempt has nearly doubled, and that has disproportionately affected female adolescents;

Whereas, in 2022, more than 90,000 children 19 years of age and younger were treated in an emergency room due to unintended pediatric poisoning, and more than 90 percent of those incidents occurred in the home, most often with acetaminophen, edible cannabis, melatonin, ibuprofen, laundry packets, bleach, diphenhydramine, blood pressure medications, sedatives, and anti-anxiety medication;

Whereas, an analysis of the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System shows—

(1) an increased incidence of ingestion of dangerous foreign bodies like button batteries and high-powered magnets during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(2) evidence that parents and caregivers sought care for foreign body ingestions either because they knew the relative danger of the object ingested or because they sought advice from available resources like the poison control centers;

Whereas 107,622 deaths due to drug overdose were reported in the United States in 2021, and the majority of those cases, approximately 71 percent, involved an opioid, primarily synthetic opioids like fentanyl;

Whereas, in 2021, the most common substances that individuals called the poison help line about were prescription and non-prescription pain relievers, household cleaning substances, cosmetics and personal care products, and antidepressants;

Whereas pain medications lead the list of the most common substances implicated in adult poison exposures, and are the single most frequent cause of pediatric fatalities reported to America's Poison Centers;

Whereas poison control centers issue guidance and provide support to individuals, including individuals who experience medication and dosing errors;

Whereas more than 40 percent of calls to the poison help line are from individuals 20 years of age or older, with nearly 50 percent of those calls involving patients older than 50 years of age, and a common reason for those calls is therapeutic errors, including questions regarding drug interactions, incorrect dosing route, timing of doses, and double doses;

Whereas normal, curious children younger than 6 years of age are in stages of growth and development in which they are constantly exploring and investigating the world around them, and are often unable to read or recognize warning labels;

Whereas America's Poison Centers engages in community outreach by educating the public on poison safety and poisoning prevention, and provides educational resources, materials, and guidelines to educate the public on poisoning prevention;

Whereas individuals can reach a poison control center from anywhere in the United States by calling the poison help line at 1-800-222-1222 or accessing PoisonHelp.org;

Whereas, despite regulations of the Consumer Product Safety Commission requiring that a child-resistant package be designed or constructed to be significantly difficult for children under 5 years of age to open, or obtain a harmful amount of the contents, within a reasonable time, children can still open child-resistant packages; and

Whereas, each year during National Poison Prevention Week, the Federal Government assesses the progress made by the Federal Government in saving lives and reaffirms the national commitment of the Federal Government to preventing injuries and deaths from poisoning; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the week of March 19 through March 25, 2023, as "National Poison Prevention Week";

(2) expresses gratitude for the people who operate or support poison control centers in their local communities;

(3) expresses gratitude for frontline workers supporting poison prevention during the COVID-19 pandemic;

(4) supports efforts and resources to provide poison prevention guidance or emergency assistance in response to poisonings; and

(5) encourages—

(A) the people of the United States to educate their communities and families about poison safety and poisoning prevention; and

(B) health care providers to practice and promote poison safety and poisoning prevention.

SENATE RESOLUTION 124—DESIGNATING MARCH 24TH, 2023, AS "NATIONAL WOMEN OF COLOR IN TECH DAY"

Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. WICKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. PADILLA) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 124

Whereas National Women of Color in Tech Day acknowledges the challenges many women of color face in the field of technology (referred to in this preamble as "tech") and recognizes and emphasizes the importance of women of color in tech in the United States, including—

(1) Katherine Johnson, a former engineer at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

(2) Marie Van Brittan Brown, who invented the first home security system; and

(3) Patricia Bath, who invented the Laserphaco Probe for the removal of cataracts;

Whereas evidence suggests that structural and social barriers in tech education, tech workforce development, the tech workforce, and venture capital investment in tech can disproportionately and negatively affect women of color;

Whereas women are underrepresented in tech and women of color often face additional systemic barriers in the tech ecosystem specifically and in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this preamble as "STEM") fields generally;

Whereas underrepresented minority students often face an opportunity gap in STEM education in the United States;

Whereas women and girls of color often face an achievement gap in science and engineering education;

Whereas women and girls overall often face a large opportunity gap in computer science;

Whereas the competitiveness of the United States in the 21st-century global economy largely depends on developing STEM-literate citizens;

Whereas the demand for professionals in tech and computing fields is expected to increase substantially over the next decade;

Whereas, as of March 2023, data showed there were more than 750,000 open and unfilled cybersecurity jobs in the United States;

Whereas increasing the number of women of color in tech will be critical to building and maintaining a competitive tech workforce;

Whereas women of color currently make up 39 percent of the female population in the United States and are projected to make up the majority of women by 2060;

Whereas, according to a 2018 study by the Women of Color in Computing Research Collaborative, women of color in the United States earn less than 10 percent of the bachelor's degrees in computing and less than 5 percent of doctorates in computer science;

Whereas the low number of women of color in tech positions who have not received a bachelor's degree, or who earn certificates, demonstrates that women of color may not be taking sufficient advantage of alternative pathways for reskilling in computing-related areas or may not have adequate access or exposure to these pathways;

Whereas increasing the inclusion of women of color in the science and tech sectors can provide role models who can inspire students of all backgrounds and identities, including young girls of color;

Whereas diversity in any field incorporates different experiences and ideas that can ultimately lead to more creative and pioneering solutions to the current and future problems of the United States;

Whereas a May 2020 study by McKinsey and Company shows that companies with a diverse workforce often perform better, hire more qualified employees, have more engaged employees, and are better at retaining workers than companies that do not prioritize diversity;

Whereas communities of color are underrepresented in corporate leadership roles, including in the tech sector; and

Whereas a pipeline of qualified tech candidates of color is critical for future growth, particularly as the tech industry works to improve the recruiting, hiring, and retaining of candidates and employees of color: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 24, 2023, as "National Women of Color in Tech Day";

(2) recognizes the celebration of National Women of Color in Tech Day as a time to reflect on the many notable contributions that women of color have made to the field of technology in the United States;

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe National Women of Color in Tech Day with appropriate programs and activities;

(4) pledges to work to increase diversity and inclusion in the technology sector, including through robust plans to ensure recruitment, training, and retention of underrepresented minorities at all levels;

(5) commits to working to eliminate barriers to entering the technology sector faced by women of color and individuals from other underrepresented groups;

(6) reaffirms the commitment of the Senate to ensuring that all students have access to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this resolution as "STEM") education for a 21st-century economy, including computer science education in particular;

(7) supports efforts to strengthen investments in, and collaborations with, educational institutions, including community colleges, historically Black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, Asian-American, Native American, and Pacific Islander-serving institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions, and other minority-serving institutions, to sustain a pipeline of diverse STEM graduates ready to enter the technology sector; and

(8) urges the President to work with Congress to improve data collection, data